



Patent
Bobovitch et al. 0-03-139

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Bobovitch et al.
Serial no.: 10/601,381
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Title: IMPROVED MULTILAYER BARRIER POLYMERIC FILMS
Examiner: Tarzano, Donald Lawrence
Art Unit: 1773

Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

This response and amendment are in reply to the office action mailed on July 29, 2004. Attached is a check for the appropriate amount for the three month extension.

The applicant would like to draw the examiner's attention to page 5 lines 16 to 24, where the applicant described at least one embodiment of the present claimed invention. That disclosure reads as follows:

However, incompatible layers must be bound together using an intermediate adhesive (or tie) layer. This need is obviated by the invention, through the exploitation of interlayer cross-linking. This is achieved by dissolving appropriate concentrations of one or more cross-linking photo-initiators in both of the polymer compositions which when melted and extruded are part of the multilayer tape. Thereafter, cross-linking is initiated to achieve the desired interlayer cross-linking.

In view of that language, there is antecedent support for the term "incompatible", as well as support for the limitation "without any adhesive or tie layer", in the amended claims. Moreover, this paragraph clearly sets forth that the present claimed invention does not relate to multilayer films, which require either that contiguous layers be compatible, or that an adhesive (or tie) layer be provided, if they are not compatible. The invention, rather, provides a solution to the binding together of incompatible layers without the need for an intermediate tie layer. This is achieved by dissolving a cross-linking photo-initiator in both incompatible contiguous layers.

The cited references do not teach, suggest or disclose the above invention. On the contrary, the applied art teaches away from the invention.